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EL437447804US

Case Docket No. 533

FORM PTO-1062

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

UTILITY PATENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing the patent Application of

Inventor: Toni Moore

For (Title): Helmet Huggers

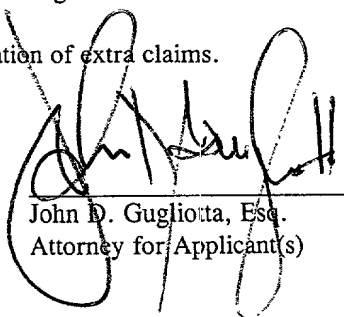
Enclosed are:

- INFORMAL
- ☒ 4 sheets of drawing;
  - ☐ An assignment of the invention to \_\_\_\_\_;
  - ☒ A certified copy of a Utility patent application;
  - ☒ An associate power of attorney;
  - ☒ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR § 1.9 and 37 CFR § 1.27;
  - ☒ And Information Disclosure Statment Transmittal [substitute for form PTO-1449], along with copies of the IDS citations.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

Basic Filing Fee for Small Entity:	\$ 380.00
Filing Fee for Additional Claims (over 20)	\$ 0.00
Filing Fee for Additional Independent	
Claims (over 3)	\$ 0.00
Surcharge for Multiple Dependent Claim Presented	\$ 0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$380.00</b>

- ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No.07-2380 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
- A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ A check in amount of \$ 380.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.07-2380. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
  - ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16.
  - ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.07-2380. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
  - ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17.
  - ☐ The issue fee set in 37 CFR § 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.311(b).
  - ☒ Any filing fees under 37 CFR § 1.16 for presentation of extra claims.

  
 John D. Gugliotta, Esq.  
 Attorney for Applicant(s)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Moore, Toni

Serial N°:

Filed:

Entitled: Helmet Huggers

Docket N°: 533

Date: November 18, 1999

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.0(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled as above and described in

☒ the specification filed herewith

☐ application serial number \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_

☐ patent no. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_

I/We have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9<sup>©</sup> if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I/We have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ no such person, concern, or organization

☐ persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entity. (37 CFR 1.27).

I/We acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I/We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

**SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:**

Full Name of First Inventor: Toni Moore

Toni Moore  
Signature of : Toni Moore

11-30-99  
Date

**SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY):**

Full Name of Joint Inventor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Joint Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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# Utility Patent Application

## CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Patent Application based on: Docket No. 99-533  
Inventor: Toni Moore  
Attorney: John D. Gugliotta, P.E., Esq.

## SLIP-ON, INSULATING AND DECORATIVE COVER FOR BICYCLE SAFETY HELMETS

### RELATED APPLICATIONS AND DISCLOSURES

There were no previously filed, nor any copending applications anywhere in the world.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

#### 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to safety helmet and hard hat covers, and, more particularly, to slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like.

## 2. Description of the Related Art

### 5 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an improved slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like that is designed to have images, logos and the like placed thereon, post manufacture, without image distortion occurring once the hard hat cover is placed on the hard hat and the like.

15 Briefly described according to one embodiment of the present invention, a slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like is disclosed, designed for use with conventional hard hats and the like. The present invention consists of a main body, constructed of an elastic material that stretches to fit over and contracts to fit the contour of a hard hat structure. Available in a variety of colors and patterns, the main body provides an effective, low cost method by which one can customize his or her hard hat, or add a company name or logo in order to create a business identity. It is envisioned that the main body is comprised of a flame retardant material. A main body retention means is attached to the ends of  
20 the main body, so as to form a generally enclosed structure.

At least one stiffened segment is located on the main body. The stiffened segment is designed to permit a visual media, such as a logo or company name, to be imprinted thereon, using imprinting techniques, such as silk screen and the like, without distortion of the image occurring when the main body is subsequently stretched over the hard hat. As such, the stiffened segment is designed to reduce the elasticity of that portion of the main body to a sufficient degree to reduce noticeable distortion of the visual media once the main body is applied to the hard hat.

It is envisioned that the stiffened segment may take on a variety of sizes and configurations, depending on the cross sectional area needed to place a particular visual media on the main body.

It is envisioned that the main body is washable. It is envisioned that a reflective coating be placed on the main body, thus permitting the present invention to be used by construction workers and the like, for safety purposes, as is required by applicable state and federal regulations.

In an alternate embodiment of the present invention, the stiffened segment is replaced with a patch attachment means, such as Velcro. The patch attachment means is positioned in the same position as the stiffened segment was positioned. The patch attachment means permits patches, conceivably containing company logos and the like, to be releasably secured to the main

body.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a device that conforms to the contour of a hard hat and the like.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a device that is self-securing.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a device that can be easily slid on and off the hard hat.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a device that is washable.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a device that comes in a variety of colors and patterns, to suit workers' taste and facilitate individuality.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a device that utilizes printed or embroidered text or logos, thus being used for advertising purposes or to promote company identification.

#### DESCRIPTIVE KEY

- 10 slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like
- 20 hard hat and the like
- 30 main body

40 pattern  
50 visual media  
55 main body retention means  
60 stiffened segment  
5 70 reflective coating  
80 patch attachment means  
90 patch

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

10 The advantages and features of the present invention will become better understood with reference to the following more detailed description and claims taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like elements are identified with like symbols, and in which:

15 FIG. 1 is a front perspective view of the preferred embodiment of slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like 10, in use with a hard hat or the like;

FIG. 2 is a bottom view thereof;

FIG. 3 is an elevational view of the main body;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged view of the stiffened segment;

20 FIG. 5 is a left side view of the present invention in-use; and

FIG. 6 is a front perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention.



## DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The best mode for carrying out the invention is presented in terms of its preferred embodiment, herein depicted within the Figures 1 through 5.

### 1. Detailed Description of the Figures

5 Referring now to FIG. 1, a slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like 10 is shown, according to the present invention, designed for use with conventional hard hats 20 and the like.

10 Referring now to FIGS. 1 and 2, the present invention comprises a main body 30, constructed of an elastic material that stretches to fit over and contracts to fit the contour of a hard hat 20 structure. Available in a variety of colors and patterns 40, the main body 30 provides an effective, low cost method by which one can customize his or her hard hat 20, perhaps adding a visual media 50, such as a company name or logo in order to create a business identity. It is envisioned that the main body 30 is comprised of a flame retardant material.

15 Referring now to FIGS 2 and 3, a main body retention means 55 is attached to the ends of the main body 30, so as to form a generally enclosed structure. For purposes of disclosure, this main body retention means 55 is depicted as an elastic band.

20 Referring now to FIGS. 1 and 4, at least one stiffened segment is located on the main body 30. The stiffened segment 60 is designed to permit a visual

media 50, such as a logo or company name, to be imprinted thereon, using imprinting techniques, such as silk screen and the like, without distortion of the image occurring when the main body 30 is subsequently stretched over the hard hat 20. As such, the stiffened segment 60 is designed to reduce the elasticity of that portion of the main body 30 to a sufficient degree to reduce noticeable distortion of the visual media 50 once the main body 30 is placed over and onto the hard hat 20.

It is envisioned that the stiffened segment 60 may be formed by any of several stiffening means known in the manufacturing industry, such as impregnating the fibers of the main body 30, hard drying glue or adhesive, etc.

It is envisioned that the stiffened segment 60 may take on a variety of sizes and configurations, depending on the cross sectional area needed to place a particular visual media 50 on the main body 30.

Referring now to FIG. 5, it is envisioned that the main body 30 is washable. It is also envisioned that a reflective coating 70 is located on the main body 30, thus permitting the present invention to be used by construction workers and the like, for safety purposes, as is required by applicable state and federal regulations.

Referring now to FIG. 6, in an alternate embodiment of the present invention, a patch attachment means 80 is affixed to the stiffened segment 60.

The patch attachment means 80 permits patches 90, conceivably containing company logos and the like, and of varying sizes and configurations, to be releasably secured to the main body 30. For purposes of disclosure, these patch attachment means are depicted as comprised of Velcro.

It is envisioned that other styles and configurations of the main body 30, stiffened segment 60, reflective coating 70 and patch attachment means 80 can be easily incorporated into the teachings of the present invention, and only one particular configuration shall be shown and described for purposes of clarity and disclosure and not by way of limitation of scope.

## 2. Operation of the Preferred Embodiment

To use the present invention, the main body 30 is cut from materials commonly used in the manufacturing industry. A stiffened segment 60 is then formed on the main body 30. The user then imprints the visual media 50 onto the stiffened segment 60, and wait for the visual media 50 to dry. Finally, the user places the main body 30 on the hard hat 20 or the like.

The foregoing description is included to illustrate the operation of the preferred embodiment and is not meant to limit the scope of the invention. The scope of the invention is to be limited only by the following claims.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like, said hard hat cover designed for use with conventional hard hats and the like, and comprising:

a main body, constructed of an elastic material that stretches to fit over and contracts to fit the contour of a hard hat structure;

main body retention means, said main body retention means attached to the ends of said main body, so as to form a generally enclosed structure; and

at least one stiffened segment.

2. The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said stiffened segment facilitates the imprinting of a visual media onto said main body, using imprinting techniques, without distortion of the image occurring when said main body is subsequently stretched over said hard hat.

3. The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said stiffened segment is designed to reduce the elasticity of that portion of said main body to a sufficient degree to reduce noticeable distortion of said visual media once said

main body is applied to said hard hat.

4        The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said main body is washable.

5

5.       The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, further comprising a reflective coating placed on said main body, thus permitting said present invention to be used by construction workers and the like, for safety purposes, as is required by applicable state and federal regulations.

6.       The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, further comprising a patch attachment means, said patch attachment means affixed to said stiffened segment and designed to permit patches, conceivably containing company logos and the like, to be releasably secured to said main body.

7.       The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said main body is comprised of a flame retardant material.

8.       A fabric cover for hard hats and the like having a main body, said improvements comprising:

main body retention means, said main body retention means attached to the ends of said main body, so as to form a generally enclosed structure; and

at least one stiffened segment.

5

9. The hard hat cover described in Claim 8, wherein said stiffened segment facilitates the imprinting of a visual media onto said main body, using imprinting techniques, without distortion of the image occurring when said main body is subsequently stretched over said hard hat.

10. The hard hat cover described in Claim 8, wherein said stiffened segment is designed to reduce the elasticity of that portion of said main body to a sufficient degree to reduce noticeable distortion of said visual media once said main body is applied to said hard hat.

11. The hard hat cover described in Claim 8, further comprising a patch attachment means, said patch attachment means affixed to said stiffened segment and designed to permit patches, conceivably containing company logos and the like, to be releasably secured to said main body.

20



## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like is disclosed, designed for use with conventional hard hats and the like, constructed of an elastic material, the cover stretches to fit over and contracts to fit the contour of a hard hat structure. At least one stiffened segment is located on the main body. The stiffened segment is designed to permit a visual media, such as a logo or company name, to be imprinted thereon, using imprinting techniques, such as silk screen and the like, without distortion of the image occurring when the main body is subsequently stretched over the hard hat.



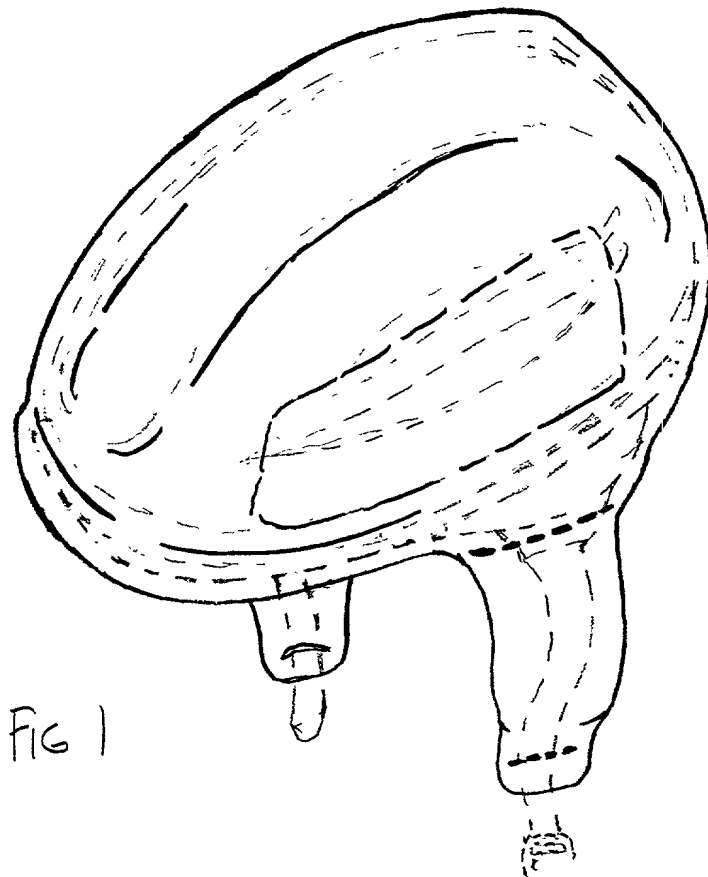


FIG 1

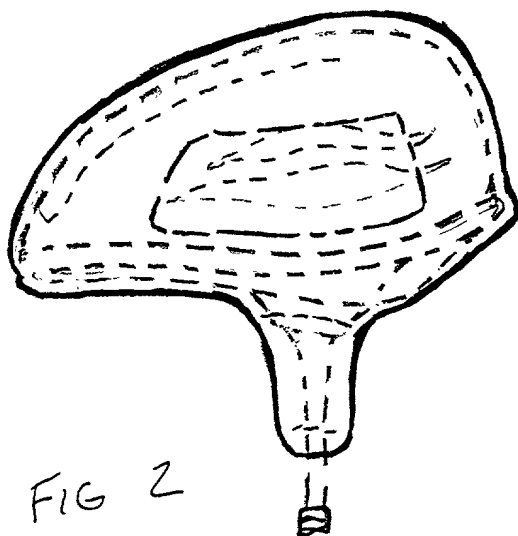


FIG 2

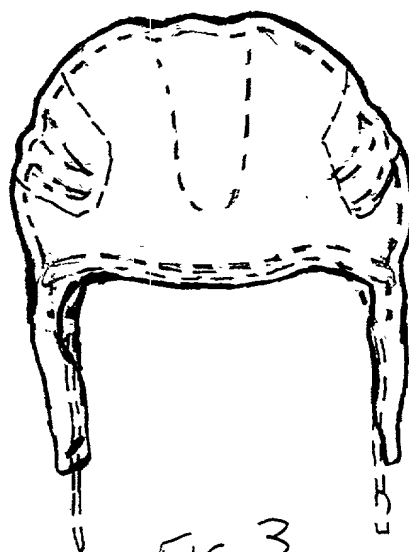


FIG 3

FRONT

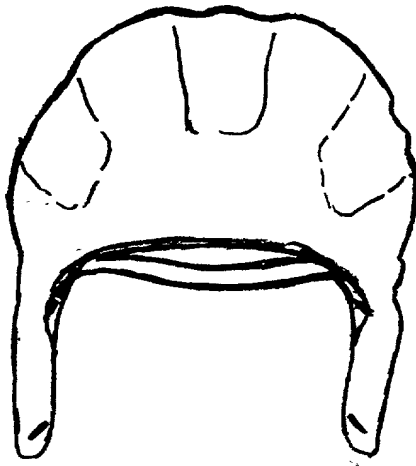


FIG 4  
REAR

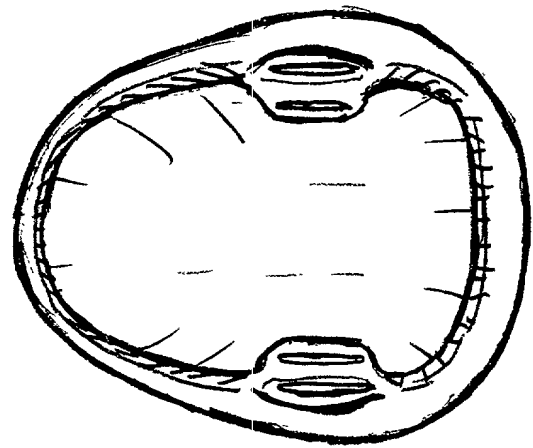


FIG 5  
BOTTOM

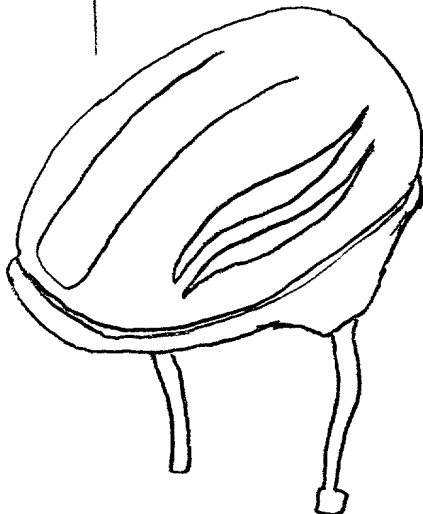
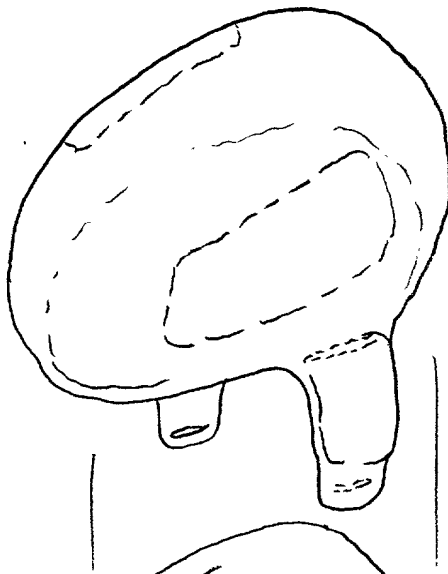


FIG 7  
EXPLODED

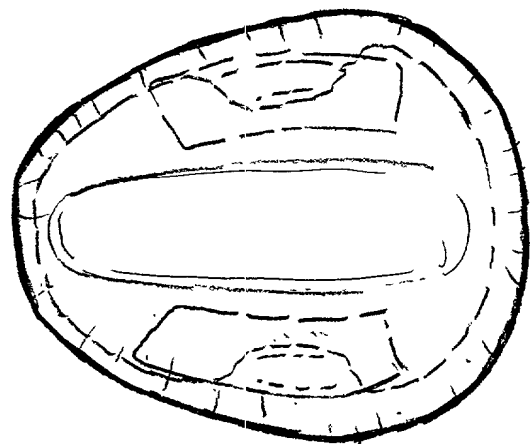


FIG 6 TOP

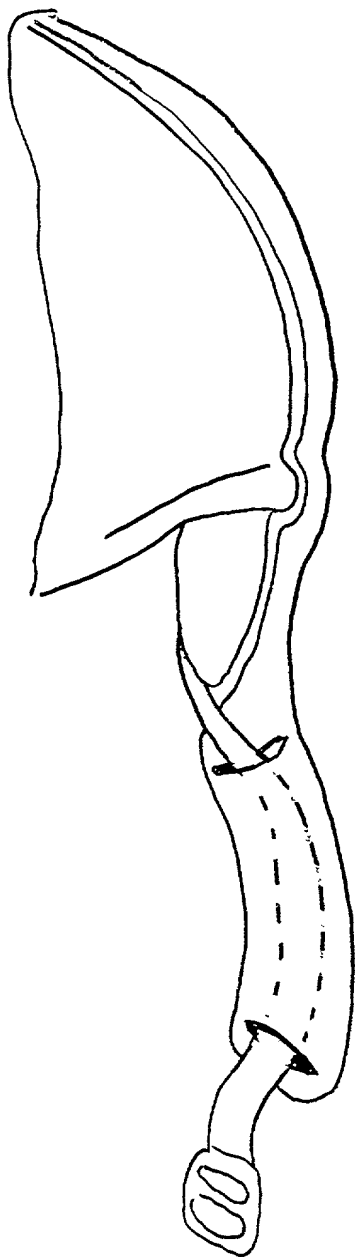


FIG 8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Moore, Toni

Serial N°:

Filed:

Entitled: Helmet Huggers

Docket N°: 533

Date: November 18, 1999

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I/We hereby declare that:

My/Our residence, post office address(es) and citizenship(s) are as stated below next to my/our name(s).

I/We believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed (if plural names are listed below) and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled the specification of which is attached hereto.

I/We further state that I/We do not know and do not believe that the above-named invention has ever been known or used in the United States before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof, or more than one year prior to this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to this application; that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of any inventor's certificate in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than six (6) months prior to this application;

and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on the invention has been filed by me or my representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States except as identified below.

I/We hereby state that I/We have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment if applicable.

I/We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I/We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**None.**

I/We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112. I/We acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**None.**

I/We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I/We hereby appoint the following Patent Attorney, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

**John D. Gugliotta, P.E., Esq., Registration No. 36,538**

**Michael J. Corrigan, Esq., Registration No. 46,440**

I/We hereby request that all correspondence be directed to: **Law Offices of John D. Gugliotta, PE, Esq., 202 Delaware Building, 137 South Main Street, Akron, OH 44308** which is also the address of the above-listed attorneys; and that all telephone calls be directed to (330) 253-5678.

[illegible]

Tom Moore

11-30-99

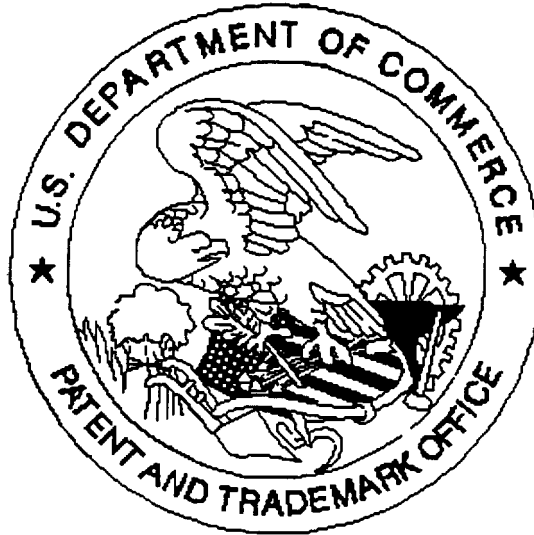
Post Office Address of Toni Moore, Rt. 1 Box 113 E Grandview TX, 76050

Full Name of Joint Inventor:

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Post Office Address of Joint Inventor:

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